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Docket No.: 826.1517

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Minoru KURIKI, et al.

Serial No. 09/189,410

Group Art Unit: 2154

Confirmation No.

Filed: November 10, 1998

Examiner: A. Caldwell

For: MESSAGE PROCESSING DEVICE, MESSAGE MANAGEMENT METHOD AND  
STORAGE MEDIUM FOR STORING MESSAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

OFFICIAL

AMENDMENTAssistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 202317-2-01  
RECEIVED

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 31, 2001, and having a period for response set to expire on March 31, 2001. A Petition for a 2-month extension of time, together with the requisite fee for same, is submitted herewith, thereby extending the period for response to July 2, 2001 (June 30, 2001 being a Saturday).

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

## IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please AMEND the paragraphs identified by their beginning page and line numbers, as follows:

Page 1, line 20

There is a case where, when a plurality of members cooperatively do business, a leader transmits mails to the members to confirm whether or not the members have completed the business activity, in order to determine the business progress states of the members. In such a case, each member of the group prepares a mail for reporting whether or not his or her business activity has been completed, and transmits this mail to the leader. The leader reads the mails